

CLAIM LISTING

Please find below a complete listing of presently pending claims with status identifiers. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1-19. (Cancelled).

20. (Currently Amended) An implantable fixed tissue comprising cross-linked elastin, wherein the cross-linked elastin of the implantable fixed tissue is cross-linked with a phenolic tannin cross-linking agent, the implantable fixed tissue including an elastin content of at least about 30% by weight of the implantable fixed tissue ~~a residue of the phenolic tannin cross-linking agent bound to and cross-linking the elastin of the fixed tissue.~~

21. (Currently Amended) The implantable fixed tissue of claim 20, further comprising cross-linked collagen, wherein the collagen is cross-linked with a glutaraldehyde cross-linking agent, ~~the implantable fixed tissue including a residue of the glutaraldehyde cross-linking agent bound to and cross-linking the collagen of the fixed tissue.~~

22-23. (Cancelled).

24. (Previously Presented) The implantable fixed tissue of claim 20, wherein the phenolic tannin cross-linking agent is tannic acid.

25-27. (Cancelled).

28. (Previously Presented) The implantable fixed tissue of claim 20, wherein the tissue is selected from the group consisting of bovine and porcine tissue.

29. (Currently Amended) The implantable fixed tissue of claim 20, wherein the tissue is selected from the group consisting of pericardium, aortic wall, heart-valve, and vena cava tissue.

30. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) An implantable fixed tissue comprising:
cross-linked elastin, wherein said cross-linked elastin of the implantable fixed tissue is cross-linked with a phenolic tannin cross-linking agent, the implantable fixed tissue including an elastin content of at least about 30% by weight of the implantable fixed tissue ~~comprising a residue of the phenolic tannin cross-linking agent bound to and cross-linking the elastin of the fixed tissue;~~ and
a bioprosthetic support material attached to the implantable fixed tissue.

31. Cancelled.

32. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) The implantable fixed tissue of claim 30, in which the implantable fixed tissue further comprises collagen, wherein said collagen is cross-linked with a glutaraldehyde cross-linking agent, ~~the implantable fixed tissue including a residue of the glutaraldehyde cross-linking agent bound to and cross-linking the collagen of the fixed tissue.~~

33. (Withdrawn) The implantable fixed tissue of claim 30, wherein the implantable fixed tissue is an anisotropic tissue.

34. (Withdrawn) The implantable fixed tissue of claim 33, wherein the anisotropic tissue exhibits greater stiffness in a first direction and greater elasticity in a second direction.

35. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) The implantable fixed tissue of claim 30, wherein the tissue is selected from the group consisting of ~~pericardium~~, aortic wall, ~~heart valve~~ and vena cava tissue.

36. (Withdrawn) The implantable fixed tissue of claim 30, wherein the tissue is porcine vena cava tissue.

37. (Withdrawn) The implantable fixed tissue of claim 30, wherein the support material comprises a stent.

38. (Withdrawn) The implantable fixed tissue of claim 30, wherein the support material comprises a suture ring.

39. (Withdrawn) The implantable fixed tissue of claim 30, wherein the implantable fixed tissue is a portion of a bioprosthetic heart valve.

40-46. (Cancelled).

47. (Withdrawn) The implantable fixed tissue of claim 30, wherein the phenolic tannin cross-linking agent is tannic acid.

48. (Previously Presented) An implantable fixed tissue comprising cross-linked elastin and cross-linked collagen, and including a phenolic tannin cross-linking agent and an aldehyde cross-linking agent, the implantable fixed tissue being anisotropic with regard to elasticity of the tissue and including an elastin content of at least about 30% by weight of the implantable fixed tissue ~~the implantable fixed tissue including a residue of a phenolic tannin cross-linking agent bound to and cross-linking the cross-linked elastin of the fixed tissue, the implantable fixed tissue including a residue of an aldehyde cross-linking agent bound to and cross-linking the cross-linked collagen of the fixed tissue.~~

49. (Previously Presented) The implantable fixed tissue of claim 48, wherein the aldehyde cross-linking agent is glutaraldehyde.

50. Cancelled.

51. (Previously Presented) The implantable fixed tissue of claim 48, wherein the phenolic tannin cross-linking agent is tannic acid.

52. (Previously Presented) The implantable fixed tissue of claim 48, wherein the tissue is selected from the group consisting of bovine and porcine tissue.

53. (Previously Presented) The implantable fixed tissue of claim 48, wherein the tissue is selected from the group consisting of pericardium, aortic wall, heart valve, and vena cava tissue.

54. (New) The implantable fixed tissue of claim 20, wherein the tissue is vena cava tissue.

55. (New) The implantable fixed tissue of claim 48, wherein the tissue is vena cava tissue.